

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

COUNTRY

East Germany

TOPIC

Military Information from Jena

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 2 January 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 22 November 1952, the Loebstedt Kaserne in Jena was occupied to capacity by an estimated 1,200 to 1,300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. In early October, an area adjoining the installation and containing 6 five-story and 3 three-story civilian houses which were evacuated was surrounded with a board fence.

2. On 20 November, trucks [] and [] and another truck with a total of 49 officers left the installation toward the town. A march column of 100 soldiers and another march column of 150 soldiers were observed practicing in the barracks yard. Five soldiers each were seen engaged in aiming practices on four 37-mm AA guns and three soldiers practicing on a range finder. Three soldiers were training dogs along the railroad line. Trucks [] were seen driving to the installation.⁴ Prior to 22 November, the Forst Kaserne was occupied by Soviet troops who continuously practiced with VPs.

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On 22 November, a VP officer and 15 VPs entered the installation. Soviet soldiers practiced together with VPs on six 37-mm AA guns behind the quarters. About 10 a.m., 3 officers, 6 NCOs and 73 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia entered the installation. Nine soldiers wearing coveralls laid telephone cables just west of the Waldschloesschen inn. One officer and three EM with a portable switch board were seen at the Forst Kaserne. [] the installation was heavily guarded by Soviet and VP patrols.²

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3. On 17 November, the barracks installation in Jena-Loebstedt was occupied by about 1,400 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About 60 trucks were in the installation. On 18 October, 13 T-34 tanks [] were detained at the Saale railroad station and moved toward the installation. []

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25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

189

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- 2 -

25X1

[redacted] between 11 p.m. and midnight on 17 October, 12 to 15 tanks moved toward the Loebstedt Kaserne. Trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] were observed going to the installation.¹

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4. In early October, a depot [redacted] which was headed by Major Pamaranoff (fnu) moved from Ohrdruf to Jena. The store of this depot which was called by the soldiers the base was located at 50 Naumburger Strasse. A shed capable of sheltering four trucks and a repair shop were built and reconditioned at 50 Naumburger Strasse in late October.³ The houses located at 68 through 72 Naumburger Strasse quartered signal personnel up to 20 October. The houses at 62 through 66 on Naumburger Strasse quartered personnel of the Heeresnebenzeugamt (branch ordnance depot).⁴ Ammunition stored at this ordnance depot was shipped to a garage of the Jena-Roedigen airfield in October.

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[redacted]
A fence was constructed around the garage which was illuminated at night. Ten men were added to the constant guard every night.⁵

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5. During the night of 1 October, 1 light armored scout car, 16 T-34 tanks, 6 x 120-mm mortars, 1 field kitchen and truck [redacted] were detrained at the Saale railroad station. The unit moved to the Loebstedt Kaserne. In the morning of 2 October, the weapons were noticed in the barracks yard. On 3 October, a truck [redacted] carrying 12 x 80-mm mortars moved from the railroad station to the barracks installation. On 22 October, 45 to 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage were lined up in front of block No 7 of the Loebstedt Kaserne. On 23 October, mortars were seen in a garage. On 2 November, trucks [redacted] each towing a 57-mm AT gun and occupied by 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation toward the target range. A little later, an SP gun, two T-34 tanks and trucks [redacted] carrying practice targets and occupied by three soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation toward Rothenstein. All quartering buildings were brightly lighted at dusk. Trucks [redacted] were observed going to the installation.

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6. On 1 October, 7 JS tanks [redacted] 1 armored personnel carrier, 5 SP guns, 3 motorcycles, 4 sidecar motorcycles, 2 tank trucks and trucks [redacted] were detrained at the Saale railroad station and moved to the Zwaetzen Kaserne.⁶ On 23 October, trucks [redacted] each occupied by about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage were observed entering the installation, coming from the direction of the town. At 3:30 p.m. on 24 October, an officer and 60 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying baggage were seen marching from the railroad station to the barracks installation.⁷

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1. [redacted] Comment. As about 50 percent of the 20th Gds Mech Div is stationed in the Loebstedt Kaserne, [redacted] the occupation would have to be about 5,000 troops. [redacted] the requisitioned civilian houses are located on Stifter Strasse on the northeastern edge of the barracks installation. [redacted]. The unloading operations

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25X1

- 3 -

[redacted] of paragraph 3 again confirm that elements of the
 Eighth Gds Army returned from the fall maneuvers on trains [redacted]

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2. [redacted] Comment. This is the first information on training of VPs in the
 Forst Kaserne. [redacted]
3. [redacted] Comment. Probably the trade agency of the 20th Gds Mecz Div which
 upon completion of maneuvers returned from Ohrdruf.
4. [redacted] Comment. The former Heereszeugamt which probably houses rear services
 of the division is located southeast of the barracks installation in Jena-
 Loebstedt. The unidentified signal battalion is carried in the Zwactzen
 Kaserne. The civilian houses on Laumburger Strasse were ordered to be
 evacuated by 1 August. [redacted]
5. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] The present report
 indicates that the installations there are used as ammunition depot of the
 20th Gds Mecz Div.
6. [redacted] Comment. The report confirms the 68th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt of the
 20th Gds Mecz Div in the Zwactzen Kaserne. [redacted]
 [redacted] elements of this regiment had returned from Ohrdruf in
 early October.
7. [redacted] Comment. Probably recruits who on 23 October had arrived in Weimar
 on shuttle-train [redacted]

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